

53. The system of claim 51 wherein each allowable purchase
item type record further comprises a budget amount
associated with each allowable purchase item type; and
wherein the information processing computer further
comprises:

means for allowing the purchase transaction only if the
purchase amount is not greater than the budget amount
associated with the purchase item; and

means for reducing the budget amount associated with
the purchase item by the purchase amount if the transaction
is allowed.

54. The system of claim 53 wherein the budget amount
associated with each allowable purchase item type is
controllable by an authorized user, the authorized user
being provided with access to the budget amounts via a user
computer in selective communication with the information
processing computer.